

In re Patent Application of:
FLICK
Serial No. 10/043,077
Filing Date: JANUARY 9, 2002

In the Specification:

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 9, line 13, with the following rewritten paragraph:

Referring initially to FIG. 1, the present invention is directed to a vehicle control system 10 which illustratively operates with a vehicle of a type including a vehicle data communications bus 11. The vehicle control system ~~11~~ 10 provides increased security, such as for a number of uniquely coded transmitters as will be described in greater detail below. In addition, the system 10 is compatible with newer type vehicles including a data communications bus 11.

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 11, line 27, with the following rewritten paragraph:

In other embodiments of the vehicle control system ~~11~~ 10, the vehicle indicator 31 may be of a type which connects to the controller 21 via a hardwire interface 25. In these embodiments, the controller 21 may perform other communications or functions via the vehicle data communications bus 11. In these embodiments, the vehicle indicator may also comprise at least one of a light, a visual display, a vibration transducer, a speech message generator, and an audible signal generator.

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 14, line 13, with the following rewritten paragraph:

Turning now additionally to the vehicle control system ~~11~~ 10 as shown in FIG. 2, other concepts relating to

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verification are now described. In this embodiment of the system ~~11'~~ 10', those elements already discussed above with respect to FIG. 1 are given prime notation and most require no further discussion herein. This embodiment differs in that the receiver 20 of the embodiment of FIG. 1 is now replaced in the embodiment of FIG. 2 by a biometric characteristic sensor or reader 50. The biometric characteristic sensor 50 is for sensing a unique biometric characteristic of a user. Accordingly, the controller 21' may communicate with the at least one vehicle device via the data communications bus 11', learn the unique biometric characteristic to permit control of a vehicle function by the user, and cause an indication of whether at least one new unique biometric characteristic has been learned.